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would give the book a more satisfactory and probably more valid scientific character. As it is, one feels that the book might have been written on the basis of an elementary knowledge of such a text as James's *Briefer Course* or Titchener's *Primer*.

On the other hand, it is interesting to note that while much of the material is of the same elementary character as McMurry's *Method of the Recitation*, the content and form of Professor Strayer's book were developed to suit the needs of mature, experienced teachers who were doing senior college or pseudo-graduate work. If the book is really on the plane of such persons, some of our method books which are interpreting teaching in terms of advanced educational psychology are shooting far over the heads of the students for whom they are intended.

S. CHESTER PARKER

Songs of a Little Child's Day. Words by EMILIE POULSSON; music by ELEANOR SMITH. Springfield, Mass.: Milton Bradley Co.

This book is a distinct addition to the simple musical material for the home, the kindergarten, and the first grades of the elementary school, and must be counted as one of the best six books of songs for young children. Here is a collection which realizes the demand which has theoretically been accepted for some time, that songs for little children should be simple in idea, short in expression, attractive in melody and rhythm, and easily learned. The composers have put their ripest products into this volume, and the home and the school are richer for it.

P. W. DYKEMA

Colonial Carols; Dutch Ditties; A Chinese Child's Day. Three books of children's songs. By ANICE TERHUNE. New York: G. Schirmer. \$1.25 each.

It is but faint praise to say that this collection is above the ordinary of those not especially compiled for school use. They are still too much like the usual combination of careful printing, adequate binding, and pretty illustrating bestowed upon mediocre literary and musical material. Some of Mrs. Terhune's words, however, are of real worth. The music, though too often approaching close to a cheap, popular style, and now and then becoming frankly this, forms in a few instances a real contribution to the list of children's songs. It is unfortunate that the composer has, through a serious ignorance or a wilful disregard of the lower limits of the child's voice, for which these songs are obviously intended, made the already small proportion of good songs even smaller. Most of the compositions run below the staff, several down to B, and a few down to G. In each of the three volumes are some bits characteristic of the types discussed. While the books are not to be recommended for general school use, when music descriptive of the children of China, Holland, and our own early colonies is desired these volumes may be resorted to for interesting suggestions.

P. W. DYKEMA

Child Life in Song and Speech; Tone Plays for Children. By ALICE E. BENTLEY. New York: A. S. Barnes & Co.

These two pamphlets of twenty-four and of twenty-eight pages by the supervisor of music in Washington, D.C., should be in the hands of every teacher or parent of young children. They furnish an inspiring guide to a point of view regarding song